Amendment in various labour laws

987. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the steps being taken for the proposed amendments of Bonus Act, Plantation Labour Act, Gratuity Act, Minimum Wages Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): With a view to harmonize the interests of all stakeholders, the amendent proposals relating to the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 have been discussed at the Tripartite Industrial Committee on 26.08.2005, while in case of the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, views of the State Governments/Union Territories have been sought. The proposals relating to the amendent of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and Minimum Wages Act, 1948 have been discussed in the Indian Labour Conference held on 9-10th December, 2005.

Minimum wages for garbage removal workers

988. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to enforce minimum wages for the workers enagaged in the removal of garbage in urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) A statement giving details of minimum wages fixed by State Governments for sweepers/ scavengers under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is annexed as per Statement. The Central Government has also added the "Employment of Sweeping and Cleaning excluding activities prohibited under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993" to the schedule to the Act in the Central Sphere.